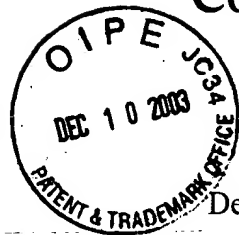


Collier Shannon Scott



December 10, 2003

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DEC 15 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application Serial No. 09/108,189
For: AN INTRODUCER SHEATH FOR USE DURING A SURGICAL
PROCEDURE
Our Reference No: 23660-00611

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application are the following documents:

- (1) Request for Continued Examination (1 sheet);
- (2) Petition for Extension of Time (1 sheet);
- (3) Preliminary Amendment (12 sheets); and
- (4) Checks for the amount of \$385.00 for government fee for RCE and \$55.00 for one month extension of time for small entity.

Please date-stamp the enclosed copy of this letter, thereby acknowledging receipt of the above-identified documents.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN N. COULBY, Reg. No. 43,565
ADRIANA L. ZACHOUSKY, Reg. No. 48,564

JNC/ejw

Enclosures

Cc: Dr. Howard Tanner
Dr. Hugh Trout, III